

### Construction Almost Complete Along Leland Avenue



A Valley resident walked carefully around a backhoe excavating soil near the corner of Leland Avenue and Desmond Street as the Leland Avenue Streetscape Project continues this summer in Visitacion Valley. The beautification project is scheduled to be completed in the next several months.

### Farmers' Market Now at Cow Palace

Residents living near Cow Palace now have access to a California Certified Farmers' Market.

Beginning in late July, the historic Cow Palace is now hosting a farmers' market bringing California's freshest and finest foods to the surrounding community every Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm until October 16th.

"Everyone should have access to affordable and nutritious fresh fruits and vegetables," said Assemblywoman Fiona Ma. "Healthy foods translate to healthy communities and it is our hope that the residents of Daly City, Visitacion Valley, Bayshore, Brisbane, and Excelsior take advantage of all that the Cow Palace Farmers' Market has to offer—nutritious food and community."

Assemblywoman Ma, San Mateo County Supervisors Carole Groom and Adrienne Tissier and other elected officials recognized

a lack of accessible supermarkets in the area and worked in collaboration with the Cow Palace and Ron Pardini of Urban Village to make the vision of a farmers' market that specifically serves the surrounding Cow Palace community a reality.

"Farmers markets are one of many strategies used by the County to improve our residents' health and build strong, vibrant communities," said San Mateo County Supervisor Carol Groom.

The Cow Palace Farmers' Market features fresh vegetables, just picked fruits, fresh fish, specialty foods, and baked goods. The market also accepts EBT and WIC. By shopping at the Cow Palace Farmers' Market, residents are buying fresh, buying local and investing in the local economy.

For more information about the Cow Palace Farmers' Market, visit [www.urbanvillageonline.com](http://www.urbanvillageonline.com).

### Streamlined Process for Food Stamps Making it Easier to Stay in the Program

SACRAMENTO – John Wagner, director of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) on July 23 announced the implementation of a new statewide policy that allows for the immediate restoration of food stamp benefits.

Previously, if a household's benefits were terminated for failing to comply with a requirement of the program, they were required to start the process over by re-applying. Restoration of benefits will be automatic if the household is able to comply with program requirements within one month of termination of benefits and thereby avoiding the re-application process. The household's benefits for the first month will be pro-rated from the date they comply.

"California continues to take proactive steps to remove barriers and improve services that allow California families better access to healthy, nutritious food," said Wagner. "With this new policy and other policy changes we have implemented recently, CDSS continues to encourage qualified Californians to apply for benefits and to also maintain benefits in a more streamlined, efficient manner."

"This measure helps counties improve customer service for our clients, and ensures eligible families continue to receive the benefits needed to provide food for their families," said Suzanne Nobles, Yuba County Health and Human Services director, who helped in the development of the new policy. "We are always looking for ways to improve the efficiency of the programs we administer, and this policy supports those efforts."

In late 2009, CDSS requested the waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to allow county welfare departments (CWDs) the ability to restore benefits when an easily curable condition, such as failing to submit paperwork, is corrected. The new policy makes it easier for eligible households to maintain their benefits and creates new program administration efficiencies at the county level.

Californians can learn more about applying for food stamps by visiting the CDSS Web site, which links to a federal pre-screening tool that can be used by most individuals to see if they are eligible for food stamps. Individuals can also download application forms and complete them in advance of their visit to their county welfare office to apply for food stamps. A list of county welfare offices is available on the CDSS Web site at [www.dss.ca.gov/foodstamps/PG839.htm](http://www.dss.ca.gov/foodstamps/PG839.htm).

To qualify for food stamps, an individual's household gross income may not exceed 130 percent of the federal poverty level — about \$1,984 a month for a family of three. Households with elderly and disabled individuals may have incomes up to 165 percent of the federal poverty level — about \$2,518 a month for a family of three. Individuals who apply have up to one year to comply with the fingerprint imaging requirements of the program.

The CDSS has been active in pursuing opportunities to increase food stamp access for needy Californians. Specifically, in 2009, the CDSS received approval from the federal government to allow county welfare departments the option of waiving the face-to-face interview for food stamp recipients. Counties are in the process of fully implementing this waiver.

In addition, working with the California Department of Public Health, the CDSS has been working with community organizations in 43 counties to reach underserved communities to help qualified individuals apply for food stamps. Since 2009, funding for this effort has more than doubled, from \$6 million to \$13 million. More detailed information about these efforts can be found at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entries/pdf/PressRelease/FoodStampProgramOutreachEfforts.pdf>.

Between March 2007 and March 2010, the number of Californians receiving food stamps grew from 2.1 million people to 3.27 million.

For more information on the Food Stamp Program, please visit [www.dss.ca.gov/foodstamps/PG847.htm](http://www.dss.ca.gov/foodstamps/PG847.htm).

### Loan Program Funds to First Time Low Income Homebuyers

Mayor Gavin Newsom announced July 13 that the Mayor's Office of Housing will once again begin taking applications for down payment assistance loans beginning August 1.

The DALP is a revolving loan fund that assists low and moderate income first time homebuyers in purchasing market rate homes in San Francisco.

Last year, due to overwhelming demands on the fund, the Mayor's Office of Housing temporarily restricted available funds to only those purchasing properties through short sales or in foreclosure.

Because of repayments into the fund, the Mayor's Office of Housing will once again make down payment assistance loans to anyone who qualifies purchasing any market rate single-family unit in San Francisco.

"Owning a home in San Francisco need no longer be a dream out of reach for hundreds of low and middle income families," said Mayor Newsom. "Our down payment assistance loan program can help families achieve home-ownership at a time when homes in San Francisco are more affordable than at any time in recent memory."

As always, the DALP can be used along with other existing programs for first time homebuyers, such as mortgage credit certificates, and low interest loans through CalHFA.

To qualify for the DALP, a potential buyer must be purchasing a single family home in San Francisco; earn no more than 120 percent of the Area Median

Income, and have gone through a homebuyer counseling through an approved agency. DALP funds can be used for homes with a purchase

price limit of \$637,645; the maximum loan amount available is the lesser of \$100,000 or 20 percent of the purchase price. The amount of the loan depends on the family's income—families with lower incomes qualify for a larger loan.

Potential buyers who are interested in a DALP loan should contact a homeownership counseling agency.

Information on the process is at [www.homeownershipsf.org](http://www.homeownershipsf.org).

Once someone has gone through homebuyer counseling, and identified a property, they must work through an approved lender to submit an application for DALP.

A list of approved lenders, along with the details of the program's guidelines are available at [www.sfgov.org/moh](http://www.sfgov.org/moh), under assistance for homebuyers.

### San Francisco Named the Top Bay Area City for Solar Power

Mayor Gavin Newsom on July 14 announced that the City and County of San Francisco was named the number one city in the Bay Area for newly installed photovoltaic solar technology.

The Northern California Solar Energy Association (NorCal Solar) made the announcement at its City/County Solar Awards Celebration. San Jose was named second in the use of solar technology, and Santa Rosa, third.

"San Francisco is lighting the way with solar power," said Mayor Newsom. "Solar power will reduce greenhouse gases, grow our green economy, and lead the state towards a future of clean, renewable energy."

Currently, San Francisco has nearly 2,000 individual solar installations that generate almost 9 megawatts of clean, renewable electricity, enough energy to

power 9,000 residences.

"San Francisco's 'Go Solar SF' program proves that going green just requires the will and proper incentives to make it happen," said San Francisco Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting, who accepted the award on behalf of the City. "By creating the largest municipal solar incentive program in the country, San Francisco has been able to triple its solar buildings and double its solar energy."

NorCal Solar is a non-profit educational organization whose mission is to accelerate the use of solar energy technology. It serves as an important link between consumers, government, and the solar industry.

NorCal Solar created the City/County Solar Awards to raise public awareness about the benefits of solar technology and develop a spirit of friendly compe-

tion between municipalities.

For more information on the Northern California Solar Energy Association visit [www.norcal solar.org](http://www.norcal solar.org)

### Drop in Local Violent Crime Rate for First Half of 2010

Mayor Gavin Newsom joined Police Chief George Gascon July 16 to discuss the first half year accomplishments of the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) and the continued drop in the total violent crime rate in the first six months of 2010.

From January through June of 2010, the total violent crime rate has dropped 20 percent from 2008, and 10 percent from 2009.

"The results demonstrate our commitment to making San Francisco the safest big city in America," said Mayor Newsom. "We reduce crime through the use of innovative strategies and by

working collaboratively with the diverse communities that we serve. I want to commend Chief Gascon and the men and women in our police force who serve on the frontlines of crimefighting and prevention every day."

The SFPD will continue to pursue the Zone Enforcement Strategies largely credited with the resulting drop in crime. Additional strategies include Chief Gascon's implementation last fall of COMPSTAT, a program to track crime trends in neighborhoods, a new "state of the art" records management system, more communication training for officers

to properly handle and "de-escalate" crisis situations and reduce use-of-force complaints against police, and an ongoing series of community advisory forums with police.

Mayor Newsom and Chief Gascon also announced that the U.S. Department of Justice has awarded the San Francisco Police Department the Outstanding Local Police Department Involvement Award. The SFPD earned the prestigious award for its innovative violence reduction strategy designed to direct a concerted enforcement effort in "hot spots" in each of the 10 police districts in the city.



## Grapevine Mailbox

### 24 Years and Counting!



Editor Len Appiano displays the first issue of the Visitation Valley Grapevine to roll off the press on July 29, 1986.

Each August edition affords us here at the Visitation Valley Grapevine the opportunity to congratulate ourselves on being a year older. But while we are happy with the achievement of inching ever so closer each month to the quarter-century mark, it will always be far more satisfying to cite the progress and many accomplishments the Visitation Valley community has made since the newspaper commenced publication.

Once the Geneva Towers were imploded in 1998, many new modern housing units at the replacement Heritage Homes and the adjacent Britton Courts were constructed, followed by the nearby John King Senior Community.

Along the way, a half-dozen empty lots near Rutland Street were transformed into attractive parks called the Visitation Valley Greenway. A small eyesore of a building at Leland Avenue and Cora Street was demolished and replaced with the attractive Visitation Valley Clubhouse. And a well-worn building housing Coffman Pool was demolished and replaced with a modern state-of-the-art facility.

Visitation Valley will soon have a beautiful and spacious new branch library along with a vastly beautified business thoroughfare.

Each of these and many other accomplishments over the last few decades are a lasting tribute to the dedicated community members who endeavored tirelessly to make these once lofty dreams a most rewarding reality.

Len Appiano, Editor  
Visitation Valley Grapevine

## S.F. Property Values

Dear Neighbor:

It's summertime and soon, all San Francisco residents will be receiving their Notice of Assessed Value for their property. This notice allows homeowners to know how much their home is valued at before their property tax bill arrives. As your Assessor-Recorder, I want to take a moment to inform residents of the resources and information provided by my office.

In recent years, San Francisco property owners have fared relatively well in comparison to other counties in California, but everyone has still felt the impact of the recession and economic downturn. In times like these, helping people understand the value of their home – often times people's single largest asset – is especially crucial.

How is property valued?

Properties in San Francisco are valued by certified appraisers in the Assessor-Recorder's office who appraise properties based on the California Revenue and Taxation Code. This code recommends three approaches to property valuation:

comparative sales, cost, and income.

The comparative sales approach uses similar properties' recent sale prices as an indication of market value. This method is preferred because it uses direct evidence of the market's valuation of similar properties. The cost approach uses estimates of current costs to replace the existing structure used mostly for new construction. And the income approach applies estimates of future benefits of ownership specifically for revenue generating properties and converts these estimates into a present value.

What Are My Resources and Options?

When times are bad and property values go below assessed values, homeowners should be paying less in taxes. Because of Proposition 8, homeowners are given a reduction in assessed value if current market value is in fact lower than assessed value. To make this system as efficient as possible, my office has created an informal review process which allows homeowners to apply for a temporary reduction by filling out a simple, one-page web form to request a review of their property. The informal review process is free and allows for a streamlined reassessment of their property. Please remember that there are fraudulent companies offering this free service for a fee – please do not fall victim to this scam!

In 2009-10, over 11,700 homeowners received temporary reductions in the assessed value of their homes. In addition to last year's applicants who automatically get reviewed, this year the office reviewed over 4,100 applicants who filed for informal reviews. Most of the reductions to assessed values were given to people who purchased homes between 2005-07 because it's probable that the assessed value of the property is above market value. Prop 8 reductions are designed to equalize assessments – affording lower tax balances which may provide temporary financial relief to homeowners. Although this fiscal year's informal review deadline was in March 2010, I encourage homeowners to apply for the next fiscal year starting in January 2011.

Should a homeowner still disagree with the assessed value of their home, anyone can apply for a formal appeal with the Assessment Appeals Board, [www.sfbos.org/aab](http://www.sfbos.org/aab). This agency was created to ensure taxpayers' rights, and operates independently of the Assessor-Recorder's office. The time to file a formal appeal is from July 2, 2010 to September 15, 2010 with a \$60 administrative processing fee.

What's The Forecast for Next Year?

Although the decline in the real estate market has been dramatic, there is a silver lining: in 2010, for the first time in California history, property values normally subject to inflation will actually be decreased across the board by a negative 0.237 percent inflation factor (set by the California Board of Equalization).

This means that every California property owner, who has not already received a property tax reduction, will see a slight reduction in their fiscal year 2010-11 property tax bills. For example, if a resident's base year value is \$500,000, and applying the negative CPI factor instead of an annual 2 percent increase, with a tax rate of 1.159 percent, the tax payer would now be paying \$5781 instead of \$5911, saving approximately \$130.

My office is responsible for valuing property in a fair and equitable manner according to California Revenue and Taxation Laws. I make it my priority to ensure that homeowners know their rights and how their homes are fairly appraised. If you have any further questions, please visit our website at [www.sfassessor.org](http://www.sfassessor.org) or contact us at 311.

Sincerely, Phil Ting  
San Francisco Assessor-Recorder

## The California State Budget and Back to School Month

by Assemblywoman Fiona Ma,  
Speaker Pro Tempore

California schools and teachers need our help now more than ever to bolster support for public education. As of July 2009, the education funding has been sliced by \$6 billion to elementary and high schools and community colleges. In addition, \$2 billion have been cut from the budget, money originally allocated to state colleges and universities. These are devastating cuts and this year is the year that Assembly Democrats are saying enough is enough.

Assembly Democrats have crafted a California Jobs Budget that restores last year's education cuts. The California Jobs Budget will restore education's minimum Proposition 98 funding and rejects the Governor's draconian cuts. Our budget also assists higher education by reducing the Governor's 15 percent UC fee increase and 10 percent CSU increase by half by providing the UC and CSU \$275 million from the Jobs and Economic Security Fund.

The California Jobs Budget:

- Creates and Protects 465,000 Jobs in the Private and Public Sector
  - Keeps Teachers in the Classroom and Cops on the Beat
  - Increases Job Training Through Community Colleges
  - Pays Down Debt to Schools and Local Government
  - Protects Education and Cuts Student Fees
- The California Jobs Budget:
- \$10 Billion Jobs and Economic Stability Fund
  - No Hidden Borrowing or Broad-based Taxes
  - Protects Working Families and Small Businesses from Harmful Cuts
  - Prevents Loss of over \$5 Billion in Federal Funds
  - \$1 Billion Emergency Reserve

Right now, negotiations between both the Senate and the Assembly continue as the Budget Conference Committee continues to meet to develop the final plan. You can learn more about the Assembly Democrats Budget by visiting the following website: <http://asmdc.org/>

### Back to School Month

The month of August calls for the end of summer and preparation to head back to school. As you may know, August is National Back to School Month, a time for community members to raise awareness about the importance of receiving an education. National Back to School Month campaign was initiated by the Partnership for Family Involvement, an association of more than 4,000 businesses, community leaders, and education institutions nationwide. This campaign urges us to celebrate learning by building support for education improvements and by fostering relationships among students, parents, teachers, schools, and their communities.

National Back to School Month is a great way we can renew our commitment to our children's education. We, as partners in our communities and school districts, need to build greater awareness of the problems facing California's public education system. To do so, we must promote education as a top priority by supporting family and community involvement and by encouraging volunteers from our neighborhoods to become mentors and tutors for students of all ages. Organize back-to-school events and activities such as a book drive to encourage long-term efforts to improve reading, or make a school calendar with events that highlight ways in which parents can become involved in improving education throughout the community.

However you choose to help out, whether you organize a tutoring program in reading, a school parade, or a class celebration for parents and students, remember our most important priority is our children's education. Emphasize the importance of public education and the

need to improve or maintain high standards in every classroom in every California school.

Let's prepare our children for the future. Let's go back to school and let's help!

How can I best prepare for college?

For many, going through the college applications process can be a daunting task. How do I apply? Where should I apply? Where do I take the SAT?

Below is a broad timeline of how you should be preparing for college your senior year of high school. Good Luck!

### August:

\*Sign up for the SAT/ACT (if you haven't already taken the tests as a junior)

\*Review SAT/ACT scores and retake the tests if you aren't satisfied with your score

### August-December

\*Meet with your school counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill standard college admission requirements

\*Consider taking courses at a local university or community college

\*Keep working hard all year, colleges do take into account your second semester grades

\*Ask for personal references from teachers, mentors, counselors, or employers at least three weeks before application deadlines. Follow your school's procedure for requesting recommendations

\*Visit with college representatives that come to your high school

\*Attend a college fair

\*Begin writing your college essay(s)

\*Apply for admission at your chosen colleges

\*Avoid common application mistakes (i.e. misspellings and grammatical errors, not reading carefully, not checking your email regularly)

\*Find out if you are eligible for scholarships at each college you applied to

\*Start financial aid process

\*See your school counselor for help with scholarships and financial aid

### January-May

\*Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) The deadline is March 2

\*Ask your guidance office in January to send first semester transcripts to schools where you applied. Come May, the office will need to send final transcripts to the college you are attending

\*Visit colleges that granted you admission

\*Decide which college to attend and notify the school of your decision

\*Keep track of deadlines for sending in required paperwork and fees

\*Notify schools that you are not attending of your decision

\*Keep a look out for scholarship opportunities

\*Watch the mail for your Student Aid Report (SAR)-expect it to arrive around four weeks after the FAFSA is filed

\*Compare financial aid packages from different schools

\*Sign and send in a promissory note if you are borrowing money

\*Notify your college about any outside scholarships you received

-Taken from ACT website <http://www.actstudent.org/college/12.html>

## McLaren Park News and Notes

### Mark Your Calendars

by Betty Parshall

On Saturday, August 28 and Sunday, August 29 Woman's Will performs Shakespeare's play *Much Ado About Nothing* at the Jerry Garcia Amphitheater in McLaren Park. Both performances start at 1 p.m.

All performances given by this all-women's company are free. Company member Lisa Edsall-Giglio, who received her masters degree in directing in London, helms the production. Live music and dancing are featured. Maddox L. Pratt (Benedick) and Lauren Spencer (Beatrice) make their *Woman's Will* debuts as the leads. The award winning Beth Chastain returns as Leonato. She was previously seen in *Taming of the Shrew*.

This classic Shakespeare comedy is about young lovers Hero and Claudio who are to be married in one week. To pass the time they conspire with Don Pedro to set a



*Taming of the Shrew* in 2009.

"lover's trap" for Benedick, an arrogant confirmed bachelor, and Beatrice, his favorite sparring partner. Meanwhile, the evil Don Jon conspires to break up the wedding by accusing Hero of infidelity. However, in the end, all turns out well, "much ado about nothing."

### No Disc Golf Effort Continues

At a recent regular meeting of the Recreation and Parks Commission, the Commission agreed to accept the resolution submitted by PROSAC (Parks and Rec Open Space Advisory Committee) which calls for a hearing on the subject of a disc golf course in McLaren Park. Commission President Mark Buell also specifically directed Rec & Park Department General Manager Phil Ginsburg to calendar a hearing in the near future. A huge thank you goes to PROSAC and to everyone who has gathered petition signatures, written letters and attended meetings in the campaign.

While achieving the goal of getting a public hearing is great, it is no guarantee of victory, and additional petition signatures and letters to the Commission and legislators are still being solicited. For additional information about the issue you can visit the web site [www.savemclarenpark.org](http://www.savemclarenpark.org)

### Pleasures of Bird Watching

The baby coots at McNabb Lake are now "teenagers" in their development, all doing well as these aquatic birds are fiercely protective of their young. Ducklings are not so protected, so it's rare that more than even half of the hatchlings reach adulthood.

There is an exceptionally good mother duck at the reservoir that keeps her brood of five (out an initial eight) close by, and all observers are rooting for them to make it to full growth. Recent sightings by yours truly were a couple of white-breasted nuthatches working over a tall weed that had gone to seed, and then a juvenile woodpecker tapping away. What was special in both cases was that these birds were all busy eating within five feet of



*White-breasted Nuthatch* where I stood. Another pleasure of our park.



## ...from the desk of the VVBOOM newsroom

by Nick Wolff

### El Buen Sabor – Numero Dos

If you haven't checked out the new purveyors of deliciousness on Leland Avenue, it's time to re-visit the Taqueria. Last month, the Leland Avenue landmark on the corner of Alpha Street changed ownership along with its name to El Buen Sabor #2, now managed by Ismael Echeverria. However, when you stop in you'll likely be greeted by the friendly faces of Maria Allamirano and Diana Ferretiz, who happily greet every customer and help prepare all your Mexican favorites.

Carne Asado, Pollo Asado, Enchiladas and Chile Relleno, El Buen Sabor #2 makes every dish in-house with fresh ingredients, something they've been doing for over 10 years in the mission district.

The opening on Leland Avenue is an expansion of their very successful El Buen Sabor Taqueria at 697 Valencia Street (at 18th Street). If the Taqueria can thrive in one great neighborhood that boasts plenty of sunshine and a diverse population, why not another?

"So far so good, and I think it will get better" says Ismael when asked how



he likes running his restaurant in Visitacion Valley. He even speculates that if things go well here, in five years maybe they'll open up numero tres. In the meantime, he is looking forward to meeting other small business owners in Visitacion Valley and sharing his favorite plate on the menu – Camarones Diablo or Spicy Shrimp.

Come in and try it for yourself, El Buen Sabor #2 is open for business at 98 Leland Avenue in downtown Visitacion Valley.



### Seminar Success

The lights at Bank of America (6 Leland Avenue) were left on later than usual on the night of Wednesday, June 30th as small business owners shuffled in for an evening seminar organized by VVBOOM and lead by two of the best in the business who donated their evening to lead an exceedingly poignant seminar for commercial lease holders in a rapidly developing corner of San Francisco. VVBOOM was lucky enough to partner with Chris Brophy, a San Francisco attorney who specializes in real estate and commercial property leasing as well as Lawrence Liu, a bilingual small business consultant from the San Francisco Small Business Development Center to lead a Commercial Leasing Basics Workshop to a room of 13 Leland Avenue small business owners. Brophy and Liu covered all the basics from zoning laws to leasing issues to options to renew. Their presentation drew so many questions from engaged merchants, they had to cut it short despite running almost 45 minutes over the allotted time.

When the gracious hosts at Bank of America finally had to close their doors for the night Brophy and Liu continued to take questions in the parking lot on the way to their cars. To call the seminar a success would be somewhat of an understatement, as the topic struck a chord with Leland Avenue small business owners.

With a strong partnership in place and participating merchants now registered as clients with the San Francisco Small Business Development Center, chances are we haven't seen the last of Liu and Brophy which is definitely a good thing.



### Countdown to the Leland Avenue Street Fair

Sunday, September 19th 2010 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Want to get involved? Call Nick Wolff 415/225.5969 or email: sf.vvboom@gmail.com

We are still looking for local businesses, artists and craftspeople who are interested in securing booth space along Leland Avenue.

If you're interested in helping out, we're still looking for volunteers to join the team. The music is taken care of as we've secured legendary Latin jazz-percussionist Pele Escovedo to headline our entertainment stage.

This year promises to be one for the ages as world class musicians, talented artists,

local craftspeople and service providers line the streets of Leland Avenue to celebrate our

new streetscape and a rebirth of downtown Visitacion Valley. Mark your calendars!



### Volunteering Will Do You Plenty of Good

Not only does volunteering help the communities you volunteer in, but the latest research shows that it could be good for your health.

A recent survey by UnitedHealthcare and VolunteerMatch, a nonprofit organization that connects people with causes, found a connection between volunteerism

and a healthier lifestyle.

The survey found that 68 percent of volunteers felt physically healthier after volunteering, and 73 percent of volunteers agree that it lowered their stress levels.

VolunteerMatch also partners with UnitedHealthcare to encourage volunteering among employees. Nearly three-quarters of its employees volunteered last year. In addition, UnitedHealthcare launched "Do Good. Live Well." an initiative designed to inspire service and volunteerism across the country.

The survey shows that the rewards of volunteering include a healthier community, a healthier workforce and a healthier you.

To find a place to volunteer, visit [www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org).

### Two Moons on the 27th

Planet Mars will be the brightest in the night sky starting August. It will look as large as the full moon to the naked eye.

This will culminate on Aug. 27 when Mars comes within 34.65 million miles off earth. Be sure to watch the sky on Aug. 27 at 12:30 a.m. It will look like the earth has two moons.

## Visitacion Valley History Project

### Life and Times of the Eisenbies Family

by Betty Parshall

Back in 1953, Mrs. John Kovalek interviewed a couple that were going to be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary that year. The Valley was busy planning a week of events for Pioneer Days, and the interview was to appear in the Grapevine's predecessor, the Valley Guide. This column is excerpted from the transcript of the interview.

Mr. and Mrs. Eisenbies first came to Visitacion Valley in 1904 to visit friends, Mr. and Mrs. Wulff and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Stade. While here Mr. Eisenbies helped his two friends build their homes at 474 and 478 Leland Avenue.

The Eisenbies family lived on Telegraph Hill and enjoyed coming to this quiet little valley, especially Mr. Eisenbies who could indulge his favorite sport, hunting. Visitacion Valley provided an excellent hunting ground for rabbits and ducks.

Then came the 1906 earthquake and they lost all that they possessed. "It was horrible," says Mrs. Eisenbies. "Right before our very eyes we saw the flames lick up one home after another, including our own."

Like so many victims of this disaster, they fled to the Valley to seek refuge with their friends, and seeing the residents unscathed they decided this was an impregnable location. They purchased two lots and built their home next door to the Wulff residence. Mr. Eisenbies also helped other families to build their homes as like him they were struggling to make a fresh start.

Says Mr. Eisenbies, "You could almost count the number of homes from Leland to San Bruno Street on one hand." He explained, "Bayshore was then known as San Bruno, later changed to Rodeo Street and the younger generation knows it now as Bayshore Boulevard."

"When we came here all we had was running water, no modern conveniences such as street lights. Why, we didn't even have streets. In front of our house we had just piles and piles of sand dunes to forge through. When company called and it was time for them to go home we escorted them to the dinky car on San Bruno by lantern light. And if it did go out we were really in a dilemma. One of our jokes at that moment was 'be careful you don't fall over a cow.'"

Mrs. Eisenbies recalls, "For years downtown for me was walking down the hill with baby and carriage as far as Mr. Louis' dry goods store. I found all my needs there. In those days a lady never left the house without wearing a hat. By the time I walked home my hat, my buggy and even my baby's face would be full of sand."

The Eisenbies couple took active roles in the community activities of the day. In 1907 Mrs. Eisenbies joined the Friendly Circle, Neighbors of Woodcraft, and was active on their drill team. She also is a charter member of the Visitacion Valley Community Center and belongs to the Improvement Club and the senior citizens group. When her daughter was in school she was hospitality chairperson for the P.T.A.

Mr. Eisenbies had been a member of the Femleaf Camp, W.O.W. since 1908 and is also a member of the Improvement Club. He was one of the volunteers who built the community center at 50 Raymond Avenue.

Mr. Eisenbies worked for the Simmons Company for forty-three years and will never forget the streetcar strike in 1907, when he had to walk to and from work, about sixteen miles round trip, every day.

Mr. Eisenbies became ill in 1941 and had to retire, but he still enjoys his hobbies, gardening and making novelties.

Mr. and Mrs. Eisenbies celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on June 21. "We have been very happy," Mrs. Eisenbies says, "and we have seen our fifty years married blossom into three generations. We have one daughter, one grandson and one great-grandson."

### Composting Class at Garden for the Environment

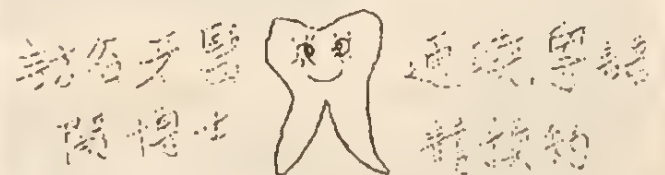
Give your summer garden a boost that will guarantee vibrant colors and tasty veggies for the months to follow at a free Urban Composting Class on Saturday, Aug. 7, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Garden for the Environment, 7th Avenue at Lawton Street.

Aside from encouraging beneficial soil organisms and conserving a non-renewable resource, composting makes an excellent fertilizer that releases nutrients slowly at a rate which the plants can use them.

This fun, hands-on class teaches methods for backyard and worm composting for home and community gardens. Come learn what you can do to improve your garden and prevent organic waste from ending up in the landfill.

## VISITACION VALLEY DENTAL OFFICE

Albert Kuan, D.D.S.



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37 Leland Avenue  
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Phone 239-5500  
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Cantonese Spoken



# Joe Leland

around the neighborhood

**\*Get the Lead Out:** Are you an urban gardener... or want to be one? Concerned about what is in your backyard soil? Join Jennifer Gorospe for a community meeting to discuss how to garden without heavy metals! Jennifer will discuss how to collect soil and get it tested, where heavy metals come from, and how to keep children, pregnant women and others who are at risk safe while gardening. The event is free and open to the public. These events are the last opportunity to sign up to be considered for free soil testing, which is being offered to 100 vegetable gardeners in the following zip codes: 94124, 94134, 94110, 94107 and 94114. Email [sfgardeners@gmail.com](mailto:sfgardeners@gmail.com) for information on how to be considered for soil testing, to receive an educational pamphlet on heavy metals and gardening; August 17, 6 p.m., Arc Ecology, 4634 Third St. at Newcomb; and August 19, 5:45 p.m. at the Portola Library, 380 Bacon Street at Goettingen.

**\*Ready for Some Football?:** Its that time of the year. Football season is here bringing new hopes for a Superbowl run by our very own 49ers and, as always, traffic to our generally quiet neck of the woods. The first preseason home game for the 49ers will be Sunday, August 22nd at 5 p.m. Freeway on and off ramps will be grid locked and parking in Little Hollywood will be scarcer then a Mel Gibson movie offer. Go Niners!

**\*Looking for a Job with Lowe's?:** Young Community Developers can help! Come to an orientation to learn about available positions, employment benefits, minimum qualifications, as well as Lowe's application process. Orientation is every first and third Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the Visitacion Valley One Stop Job Center located at 73 Leland Ave. Also every Friday at the CCSF Southeast Campus, 1800 Oakdale Ave. at 1 p.m.. For more information or to reserve your spot, call (415) 822-3491.

**\*See's Candy Job Hotline:** See's Candies has a seasonal jobs hotline, 1-888-725-7337. The current message says that applications will be accepted in September 2010 for year end Christmas time jobs. Check it often for other upcoming opportunities. Sweet!

**\*Quote of the Month:** "I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right, stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong." -Abraham Lincoln

# Record High Muni On-Time Performance

San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), which operates the Municipal Railway (Muni), announced July 13 that Muni achieved its highest-ever quarterly on-time performance rate of 75 percent between January and March of 2010.

"In the face of the most difficult budget crunch in generations, Muni managed to hit a high water mark for on-time performance," said Mayor Gavin Newsom. "San Franciscans are the beneficiaries of a more reliable transit system. We won't stop working to improve Muni until we restore 100 percent of service and achieve even better on-time numbers, but this piece of good news is welcome."

"Despite our economic challenges, the SFMTA has always been committed to improving our system. The service changes we made in December were informed by the Transit Effectiveness Project and represent recommendations and input from various members of our community," said Tom Nolan, SFMTA Board Chairman.

"Improving Muni's on-time per-

formance is fundamental to the SFMTA's mission," said Nathaniel P. Ford, SFMTA Executive Director. "This data clearly shows that the service changes and running time adjustments we implemented in December, which were based on the Transit Effectiveness Project, are working to improve our system. While I am proud of the work we are doing to improve our customers' riding experience, we have a ways to go until we reach our voter-mandated OTP goal of 85 percent."

The SFMTA reported at Tuesday's meeting of the Policy and Governance Committee of its Board of Directors that the December 2009 service changes and related running time adjustments contributed to the increase in OTP.

These service changes were informed by the Transit Effectiveness Project, an 18-month study of Muni that provided recommendations for service improvement.

While many other factors can be at play, the data suggests that increasing frequency and running time changes may have had a positive impact.

# Visitacion Valley Police Report

## Police Cases

\*On June 17 at 1:30 a.m., officers responded to the area of Nueva and Blanken avenues regarding an auto burglary in progress. They got there so fast, that the suspect was still rummaging through the vehicle. The suspect eventually noticed the officers approaching and immediately vacated the vehicle and took off running. The officers gave chase which ultimately ended with the suspect rounding a corner and diving under a car with the hope of not being discovered. His hopes were dashed as he was quickly located and arrested. The officers located the vehicle owner who was shocked to learn that his car was being broken into right in front of his home as he slept. The suspect had burglary tools on his person as well as a few items that were identified by the vehicle owner as having been stolen from the car. It was no big surprise that the suspect was on active parole. He was booked at Bayview Station and a hold was put on his parole status.

\*On June 25 at 6 p.m. on the 100 block of Loehr Street, a woman reported to officers that she had been assaulted and sexually battered by her male cousin. The victim stated that on a previous date the suspect grabbed her breasts and buttocks and then burned her with a cigarette when she told him to stop. On this date, the suspect doused her with hot coffee during a verbal argument. The suspect was searched for but not located. At 9:08 p.m. on the 2100 block of Geneva Avenue, officers joined SFFD personnel and were told that a juvenile female had been sprayed in the face with possibly Mace or pepper spray and another had been punched in the eye. The two victims stated that they were riding the bus together when they were confronted by a known juvenile female suspect and her friends. The victims got off of the bus to avoid a fight, but the suspect and her posse followed suit. One of the victims ran into a nearby convenience store and behind the counter with the suspect following. The suspect sprayed the victim in the face. The suspect then exited the store and punched the other victim in the face. The suspect and her friend then ran from the scene.

\*On June 26 at 1:23 p.m. on the 100 block of Blythdale Avenue, officers conducted a stop on a vehicle which smelled of marijuana. They contacted an adult African American man seated in the driver seat. The subject told them that he had just smoked a "joint" and that he was on parole. The officer searched the suspect and the vehicle, finding methamphetamine and marijuana, a scale and other narcotics sales paraphernalia. The suspect was taken into custody and booked. At 5:22 p.m. at Geneva Avenue and Santos Street, officers responded to a robbery call. The victim, a Hispanic woman, stated that she was attacked and robbed by a White male, 24-25 years old, 5'6", 190 lbs., with long brown hair and black rimmed glasses. The suspect was with an African American male. The victim stated that she was walking toward a mini-mart with her wallet in her hand when she was grabbed from behind by her hair and pulled to the ground. The suspect then kicked her body and head and stole her wallet which only contained ten dollars. The victim was treated at the hospital for her injuries, the suspect was not located. At 7:23 p.m. on the unit block of Blythdale Avenue, officers were dispatched to a person with a gun call and located the well described suspects standing exactly where they were stated to be. As the officers approached, the suspects took off running in all directions. Numerous other officers were already on their way to the area and the suspects were all soon detained. Though a thorough search of the suspects and the area was conducted, no weapons were located. The officers released the juvenile suspects to their parents/guardians.

\*On June 27 at 1:02 a.m. on the unit block of Blythdale Avenue, a resident of the public housing complex reported that a window in her residence had been broken by an unknown person. Officers conducted a walk-through of the unit and found that entry had not been made.

\*On June 28 at 4:20 p.m. on the unit block of Blythdale Avenue, officers responded to the report of shots fired. There was also a report of a burning vehicle at the same location. The officers arrived and saw the burning vehicle, which the SFFD was trying to extinguish. The victim said that he had parked his car and went inside. About 10 minutes later, he heard a loud boom and looked to see his car on fire. At 7:15 p.m. on the 200 block of Sawyer Street, officers responded to the report of vandalism. The victim said that there were stickers with racial messages on them stuck to her front gate. The victim said that she believed the culprits were juveniles who she had yelled at two weeks earlier for banging on a street sign.

\*On June 29 at 1 a.m. on the 200 block of Arieta Avenue, an officer prepared a report at Ingleside Station regarding harassing phone calls. The victim said that he has been receiving phone calls from a woman for who he repaired a roof for

eight years earlier. The woman was making the calls incessantly, insisting that he make additional repairs, even after the man told her that he had retired. At 10:51 a.m. on the unit block of Leland Avenue, an officer met with the victim of a theft. The victim said that a roll of filter fabric was stolen from the construction site at that location. At 5:25 p.m. on the unit block of Blythdale Avenue, officers responded to the report of a burglary. The victim said that returned to her residence to find that it had been burglarized. Two televisions and a child's wagon were stolen from the residence.

\*On July 1 at 3:29 p.m. on the 1900 block of Sunnydale Avenue, officers were dispatched to the report of a trespasser. The reportee said that she was house-sitting when she heard knocks on the front door. She recognized the man at the door, who was asking to be let in to retrieve some belongings. The victim ignored the man. A few moments later she heard two loud bangs at the rear door. She looked and saw that the door was forced partially open and saw the suspect running and getting into a car.

\*On July 2 at 10:22 a.m. on the 600 block of Campbell Avenue, officers responded to the report of a trespasser. The victim said that she was inside her home when she heard a man yelling from the downstairs area of her house. The victim went to look and saw her neighbor, who she had been having problems with, standing in her home yelling profanities at her. The man was issued a citation for trespassing. At 1:24 a.m. on the 600 block of Campbell Avenue, officers responded to the above address again with other Ingleside units regarding threats. The suspect had been heard by the victim making threats to hurt the victim with a knife. The suspect was arrested and was also found to have an outstanding warrant.

\*On July 3 at 7 p.m. on the 200 block of Talbert Street, officers responded to a call of a woman cut by a knife. The officer broadcast the suspect description given by the victim and the suspect was located and detained by other officers. The officers interviewed the victim and several witnesses who told them that the victim and suspect are friends and were talking on the front stairs of the house. The suspect got mad at the victim and threw a shoe in her face. The victim and suspect began to fight and the fight went indoors. The suspect grabbed a kitchen knife and sliced the victim's leg causing a large, deep laceration. The suspect then fled the scene. The suspect was identified by the victim and was taken into custody and booked. The victim was treated for her injuries at SFGH. At 8:40 p.m. between Raymond and Leland avenues, a fight call was dispatched to officers along with numerous other Ingleside officers. A victim told the officers that one of the suspects asked him who he is "reppin'" and then punched him on his face. A large fight then started. A witness later alerted the officers to a suspect in the area. The suspect ran from the officers and was later captured with the assistance of a K-9 officer. The suspect had a warrant for his arrest as well and was booked. At 11 p.m. on the 1800 block of Sunnydale Avenue, an officer responded to a burglary in a public housing complex. The victim stated that she returned to her unit and found that an unknown person had entered her home and stole her three laptop computers, Wii, Playstation, iPod, and stereo speakers.

\*On July 4 at 5:50 a.m. on the 500 block of Carter Street, an officer responded to a vehicle fire and met with a Daly City police officer who first saw the fire and called for the fire department. A fire lieutenant told the officer that the fire appeared

intentional and that an accelerant was used by the suspect. The vehicle was towed for further investigation by the arson unit. At 11 a.m. at Brussels and Mansell streets, a man reported that an unknown suspect broke the front passenger window of his vehicle and stolen tools and coins from the vehicle.

\*On July 5 at 12:05 a.m. on the 300 block of Ordway Street, officers responded to a robbery call. The victim told the officers that he while he parked his car near his home, he noticed an African American male standing near the corner smoking a cigarette. The victim exited his car and walked to his house when the man suddenly ran to him with a gun pointed at the victim's chest. The suspect demanded the victim's money and he complied by handing the suspect his wallet. The suspect then ran away westbound on Ordway Street. The victim was uninjured. Suspect description: 30-35 years old, 5'10", 170 lbs, black hair, wearing black beanie, black hooded sweatshirt, dark pants. At 8:15 a.m. on the unit block of Blythdale Avenue, officers responded to a call of shots into a residence. The victim told the officers that she believed someone had shot into her residence. The officers located spent bottle rocket fireworks that appeared to have done the damage to the victim's window. At 3:09 p.m. on the 1900 block of Sunnydale Avenue, officers were patrolling the public housing complex as the housing officers. They observed a subject known to them as having a civil stay away order from all San Francisco public housing complexes. The suspect was stopped and taken into custody without incident.

\*On July 6 at 2 p.m. on the unit block of Kellogg Avenue, a vehicle parked in a parking lot was damaged by an unknown suspect. An officer completed an incident report documenting the damage. At 10:38 p.m. at Visitacion Avenue and Cora Street, officers were on patrol when they saw a vehicle with expired registration stickers. They stopped the vehicle and met with the driver, who had a suspended license. The driver was also found to have three warrants for his arrest.

\*On July 7 at 3:15 p.m. on the unit block of Blythdale Avenue, officers responded to a burglary. The victim returned from an outing and found that an unknown person entered her home and stole her kitchen table and chairs as well as curtains. Two windows in the home were broken and the back door was unlocked. At 3:45 p.m. on the 600 block of Velasco Avenue, officers responded to a battery call. The victim stated that two known suspects entered his unlocked front door and confronted him regarding money they stated was owed to them. The victim argued with the suspects regarding the allegation. The suspects then began to punch the victim numerous times causing facial lacerations, swelling and bruising. A witness was successful in stopping the attack by agreeing to help the victim get the money together. The suspects made a verbal threat against the victim's mother, then fled the scene. The victim was treated for his injuries at a local hospital. At 4:51 p.m. on the 100 block of Loehr Street, officers responded to the home of a wanted man and found him in a parking lot adjacent to his residence. The man was taken into custody without incident and booked for two outstanding warrants.

\*On July 9 at 4:30 p.m. on the 1500 block of Sunnydale Avenue, an officer took a report regarding a dog bite. The seven year old victim was playing in a neighbors' house with that family's dog when the dog attempted to take a dog toy from the child's hand. The child suffered two puncture injuries which the parent wanted to report, but did not want to press for any charges.

# Church of the Visitacion

Roman Catholic (1907)

## Over a Century in Visitacion Valley

Daily Masses: (Mon-Fri except Wed) 8 a.m. and Wednesday only at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday Masses: 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Sunday Masses: 8 and 9:30 a.m. (11 a.m. Spanish) 12:30 and 4 p.m.


Our Lady of Visitacion School: Grades K-8 239-7840.


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# Bayview Hunters Point Multipurpose Senior Services, Inc.

is pleased to announce

that the Senior Center building at 1706 Yosemite has been renamed the

## Dr. George W. Davis Senior Center

in honor of its Executive Director of 32 years



Please join us for the

### Dedication Ceremonies

Friday, August 6, Noon to 4:00 p.m.  
(Ceremony at 12:30 p.m.)  
At 1706 Yosemite and Third Streets  
BBQ and Snail Food

At that time, we will also give recognition to Community Connection and their subcommittee in partnership with Holiday Development for their recent contributions to the Senior Center.

We welcome contributions to the Dr. George W. Davis Legacy Fund in support of the programs and services based at the Bayview Hunters Point Multipurpose Senior Services, Inc.

Donations: check, debit, cash or money order to: Bayview Hunters Point Multipurpose Senior Services, Inc. 1706 Yosemite and Third Streets, San Francisco, CA 94112

For information: 415-422-1444 415-422-4774 or [info@bhpss.org](mailto:info@bhpss.org)



Police Cases

\*On July 10 at 2:30 a.m. on the 300 block of Ordway Street, officers responded to a robbery call and met with the victim. The victim stated that just after exiting his vehicle, he was approached by the suspect who pulled a handgun from his waistband and pointed it at him. The suspect demanded that the victim empty his pockets. The victim handed the suspect his money, three dollars, and the suspect ran from the scene. The victim was not injured. Suspect description: African American male, 18-20 years old, 6'0", 180 lbs., black hair with dreadlocks, brown eyes, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, and black jeans, clean shaven. At 12:10 a.m., p.m. at Mansell Street and Visitacion Avenue, officers responded to a robbery call. The officers located the four victims, who were robbed while picnicking in McLaren Park. The four friends set up their picnic at a table and noticed an African American male lingering nearby. Thinking nothing of the subject, they continued their lunch. Soon the subject was joined by two other African American males who then approached the victims. Two of the suspects pointed handguns at the group and ordered them to lay on the ground, while the third kept watch. The suspects went through each of the victims' pockets, stealing wallets, music players, and a watch. One of the suspects struck one of the victims on the back of the head with the gun causing an injury. A gunshot was also heard, but no one was injured. The suspects fled from the scene on foot. A search of the area for the suspects was conducted to no avail. At 6 p.m. at San Bruno Avenue and Mansell Street, officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle and found that the driver had a suspended license. The passenger in the vehicle had a warrant for his arrest and was taken into custody.

\*On July 12 at 4:20 a.m. on the 500 block of Sunnydale Avenue, officers responded to a residence regarding a burglary which had just occurred. The residents stated that they were asleep in their home when a loud noise from the garage woke them. The adult child of the homeowners, who sleeps in a room off of the garage, awoke to a light flashing in his room. The suspect quickly exited the garage with a cell phone, wallet, and two coin jars. At 7 a.m. on the 1600 block of Sunnydale Avenue, a public housing manager reported to an officer that an outbuilding used to store landscaping tools had been broken into and the tools stolen.

\*On July 13 at 11:59 a.m. on the unit block of Leland Avenue, a store owner reported to an officer that a man entered the store and stole five pairs of sunglasses from a rack and then exited the store. The victim attempted to stop the suspect but he walked away. The suspect was an African American male, 30-35 years old, 5'11", 200 lbs., wearing a black jacket, white t-shirt, and blue jeans. At 12:40 a.m. on the 1700 block of Sunnydale Avenue, officers were called to investigate a burglary call. The victim told the officers that she believed her ex-boyfriend forced entry to her housing unit and stole her laptop computer from her bedroom. The officers saw that the front door to the unit was damaged. The suspect had repeatedly called the victim and indicated that he had her property. The suspect was not located. At 2 p.m. on the 1700 block of Sunnydale Avenue, a woman was notified by her neighbor that her kitchen window was broken when two people having a dispute caused the damage. The victim was not at home at the time.

\*On July 14 at 1:22 p.m. on the unit block of Arleta Avenue, an officer was on foot patrol when he saw a man who he knew to have a stay away order from the area. The officer stopped the man and placed him under arrest. A search of the suspect showed that he was in possession of marijuana and crack cocaine. At 7:18 p.m. on the unit block of Carrizal Street, officers were dispatched to the report of a fight. The incident was only verbal in nature, however one of the parties was found to have a warrant for his arrest.

\*On July 15 at 7:39 a.m. on the 3300 block of San Bruno Avenue, officers were dispatched to the report of a burglary. The victim told them that someone had entered her building and broke into her car inside the garage area. Missing was some tools and loose change.

\*On July 16 at 6 a.m. on the 200 block of Blythdale Avenue, officers responded to a vandalism call. The officers met with the victim and saw that three panes of window glass were broken. The officers noted that there was a large amount of glass on the outside of the unit and very little on the inside. At 1:16 p.m. on the 100 block of Talbert Street, officers observed a vehicle on the roadway and ran a record check on the license plate. The query revealed that the vehicle had been reported stolen by the owner in South San Francisco. The officers conducted a felony stop on the vehicle and took the driver and three passengers out of the car. The driver was taken into custody, the passengers were later released.

\*On July 17 at 2:25 a.m. on the 1800 block of Sunnydale Avenue, officers responded to a public housing unit and spoke with the resident who

had called to report a broken window. The victim stated that he answered to door to a man who said that he was looking for the victim's son. The man left unsatisfied and broke a window to the residence as he was leaving. At 3:45 a.m. on the 2200 block of Bayshore Boulevard, officers responded to a robbery call and met with the victim. The victim provided the officers with a suspect description which the officers broadcast. The suspects were soon located and detained by Daly City PD officers on Oniente Street. The suspects were identified by the victim and taken into custody. The victim was attacked by the suspects while waiting for the bus. The suspects stole the victim's bicycle and hat and punched and choked the victim. At 10:30 a.m. on the 200 block of Santos Street, a woman reported to officers that her parked and unattended vehicle had been broken into. The victim found the driver's side rear wing window was broken and that money, tools, identification and stereo equipment was stolen.

\*On July 18 11:30 a.m. on the 1800 block of Sunnydale Avenue, a woman called to report a burglary. Officers responded to investigate. The officers found that the likely point of entry was an upstairs bedroom window with the exit being the back door. The victim's loss included a computer, video camera, digital camera, game console, jewelry and identification.

\*On July 19 at 12:50 p.m. on the 400 block of Raymond Avenue, an officer responded to a dog bite incident. The officer met with the bite victim and the dog's owner. The victim was bitten by the small leashed dog. The small dog's owner stated that the dog had never bitten anyone before and that she did not know why the dog bit the victim. Animal Care and Control was advised of the incident. At 10:45 p.m., officers responded to the area of Somerset and Burrows streets regarding an auto burglary. They met with the victim who told them that he had seen a suspect taking items out of his parked vehicle and walking away from the scene. The victim went to his car and saw that it had been

broken into and that a bunch of his tools were missing. The victim gave the officers a description of the suspect and the cops diligently began searching the area along with the victim. It did not take long for them to locate and detain the subject, who was recognized immediately by the victim as he casually walked down the street several blocks away. The officers detained him and conducted a search that revealed all of the victim's stolen property concealed in the subject's clothing. He was placed under arrest. The officers did not stop there. Some of the items in the suspect's possession did not belong to subject or his victim. The officers checked the area again and found another car that had a broken window. They contacted the owner of this second vehicle (who did not even know he was a victim of a crime yet). This second victim checked his car and found that some items had in fact been stolen. As it turned out, the mystery as to the origin of the property not belonging to either the subject or the first victim had been solved. The suspect was in possession Victim #2's property as well.

\*On July 20 at 7:15 p.m. on the 1400 block of Sunnydale Avenue, a young woman reported to officers that she was walking home from a corner store when she was approached by a group of boys who she described as, "the neighborhood bullies." One of the boys pushed her and called her names, and two other boys threw her down on the sidewalk and punched her. Several other boys were also involved in the attack to a lesser degree. The suspects were not located. At 11:56 p.m. on the unit block of Tucker Avenue, a man walking to his house observed a vehicle with no lights on drive past him. A moment later, an African American male ran up to him and pointed a handgun at him. The suspect told the victim to give him his money. The suspect then demanded the victim's wallet and he complied. The suspect stole the victim's GPS unit and cell phone as well. The suspect ran from the scene and the same vehicle sped

away from the area. Suspect description: African American male, 25-30 years old, 5'8", 150 lbs., wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, and black pants. Vehicle: White Acura Integra, 2 door.

\*On July 21 at 9:59 a.m. on the 100 block of Cora Street, officers were dispatched to the report of a verbal argument. They met the victim who said that he arrived home and saw his wife arguing with his neighbor. The suspect then started arguing with the victim and struck him twice on the head. The suspect then left the scene when he learned the police were coming.

\*On July 22 at 12:17 p.m. on the 500 block of Raymond Avenue, officers responded to the report of threats being made. The victim said that he was inside his house when the suspect rang his doorbell. The victim answered and was confronted by the suspect about a vehicle blocking his driveway. The suspect then threatened to shoot the victim and his dog. The suspect left the scene before the officers arrived. At 5:51 p.m. at Geneva Avenue and Carrizal Street, a report was prepared at Ingleside Station regarding a purse snatching. The victim said that she was on a Muni bus when she saw three suspects get on board. They sat close to her and one tried to strike up a conversation with her. She ignored the suspects and placed the iPod which she had been listening to into her purse. One of the suspects then snatched the victim's purse from her and ran off the bus, followed by another suspect. The victim tried to chase them, but lost sight of them. The first suspect was described as an African American male (5'4" 130 lbs., 18 years old), wearing dark jeans and a red jacket. The other two suspects were also described as African American males, one with a black and blue jacket, and the other with a yellow beanie.

**Police Summaries**

\*June 27 4:42 a.m., Mansell St. and John F. Shelley Dr., traffic collision, hit and run

**VISITACION VALLEY GRAPEVINE - AUGUST 2010-5**

\*June 27 11 a.m., Crocker Amazon Park, stolen auto

\*June 28 2:30 p.m., 100 block of Schwenn St., stolen auto

\*June 28 9:10 p.m., 1200 block of Sunnydale Ave., suspended driver

\*June 29 7 p.m., Leland Ave. and Bayshore Blvd., traffic collision

\*July 1 12:06 p.m., Sunnydale and Gamson Aves., unlicensed driver

\*July 2 3:58 p.m., 100 block of Brookdale Ave., recovered auto

\*July 3 5:45 a.m., 200 block of Wilde Ave., stolen auto

\*July 3 6 a.m., 100 block of Velasco Ave., stolen auto

\*July 4 10 a.m., Unit block of Carrizal St., stolen auto

\*July 4 4 p.m., Unit block of Ordway St., traffic collision, hit and run

\*July 5 10:50 a.m., 100 block of Blythdale Ave., recovered auto

\*July 5 1:04 p.m., Harkness Ave. and Brussels St., traffic collision

\*July 9 4:15 a.m., 100 block of Teddy Ave., stolen auto

\*July 10 6 p.m., San Bruno Ave. and Mansell St., suspended driver

\*July 13 13:55 p.m., block of Teddy Ave., recovered auto

\*July 14 12:30 p.m., Argonaut and Gamson Aves., unlicensed driver

\*July 14 6:24 p.m., 100 block of Britton Street, stolen truck

\*July 15 1:40 p.m., Alpha St. and Arleta Ave., stolen auto

\*July 15 9:28 p.m., 400 block of Sawyer St., stolen auto

\*July 17 10:15 a.m., 200 block of John F. Shelley Dr., recovered auto

\*July 17 10:55 a.m., Unit block of Campbell Ave., stolen auto

\*July 18 11:23 p.m., Velasco Ave. and Sawyer St., stolen truck

\*July 19 2:02 p.m., 100 block of Brookdale Ave., recovered auto

\*July 22 8:32 p.m., 500 block of Campbell Ave., stolen motorcycle

Captain Louis Cassiniego of Ingleside Station and Captain Greg Suhr of Bayview Station contributed to this report

# TW AUTOMOTIVE

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Koulikoro  
Ningbo  
Luan  
Anshan  
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Qiqihaer

### Grapevine Puzzler

World's Biggest Cities 9

E	B	V	D	S	A	E	T	V	G	R	D	S	T	N	B	V	C	X	M
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O	C	X	X	W	E	E	E	F	G	X	A	Q	V	F	Y	R	D	E	B
H	F	S	D	E	D	D	L	X	C	N	J	K	H	N	U	D	C	R	E
J	C	Z	X	S	C	G	G	H	S	J	I	M	A	F	U	D	8	T	R
H	V	X	C	D	D	D	R	H	N	H	G	N	M	G	J	F	8	Y	T
G	K	X	V	D	F	D	A	E	W	W	H	B	K	L	F	8	H	G	
Y	O	Z	Q	W	E	N	D	U	O	H	Z	I	U	S	D	R	I	G	F
G	U	O	H	Z	G	N	E	T	R	E	R	D	R	J	H	L	O	H	G
V	O	G	H	G	F	F	V	C	C	C	V	V	G	B	M	H	H	G	H
Y	I	K	J	G	O	R	O	K	I	L	U	O	K	D	F	H	U	H	G

### Historic Proportions

**1847**  
Match clues to answers.

- Yerba Buena is renamed on Jan. 30.
- Independence gained July 26.
- United States first issued these July 1.
- Treaty of Cahuenga ended this California fighting on Jan. 13.
- General led American troops on Feb. 22 in Battle of Buena Vista.
- Faustin Soulouque declared

### As a Matter of Fact

\*In 1799, Congress established the nation's highest military title, *General of the Armies of the United States* to honor George Washington, first commander of the Army but he never received it. It was awarded posthumously by a special act of Congress in 1976.

\*A Lady Banks rose tree at Tombstone, Arizona has a trunk 40 inches thick and stands nine feet tall. Supported by 68 posts and several thousand feet of piping, 150 people can be seated under the arbor. The cutting came from Scotland in 1884.

\*Cinderella's slippers, many scholars believe, were made of fur, not glass. The word verre, or glass, they claim, was incorrectly substituted in early versions of the story for the word vaire, which is French for fur.

\*In 18th century America, artists journeyed from town to town with paintings of men and women, complete in every feature but the faces. Persons wishing to sit for portraits had to select the body they liked best and let the artist fill in the missing hair and face.

\*Marsh Mallow is a plant that grows in meadows and marshes of eastern Europe. It is now grown in the U.S. During famines, people have eaten its roots. The root was once used as an ingredient in the candy called marshmallow.

### Grapevine Five Years Ago

**AUGUST 2005**  
\*Visitation Valley Community Center presented its first annual Florence Friedman Award to Mayor Gavin Newsom during an Awards Gala on July 13 at the Hotel Nikko in downtown San Francisco.

\*More than 90 firefighters were needed to extinguish a smoky three-alarm fire on June 29 which destroyed a two-story home at 29 Teddy Ave.

### Sump, the Grump



himself Emperor on Mar. 1.

- He led Mormon pioneers into Salt Lake Valley on July 24.
- He sold his first revolver pistol to the U.S government on Jan. 4..
- United States forces under him invaded Mexico near Veracruz on Mar. 9.
- Rescue effort left on Feb. 5 to save the ill-fated travelers to California.
- American Medical Association founded here May 7.
- Appointed governor of new California Territory on Jan. 16.

- A. Haiti
- B. Zachary Taylor
- C. Liberia
- D. Brigham Young
- E. John C. Fremont
- F. Samuel Colt
- G. San Francisco
- H. Philadelphia
- I. General Winfield Scott
- J. Donner Party
- K. Postage stamps
- L. Mexican-American War

### SEZ WHO?

Match quotes to speakers.

- "Remember that happiness is a way of travel B and not a destination."
- "As long as you derive inner help and comfort from anything B keep it."
- "I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past."
- "I was taught that the way of progress is neither swift nor easy."
- "All a man can betray is his own conscience."
- "Remember that it is far better to follow well than to lead indifferently."
- "We do not deal much in facts when we are contemplating ourselves."
- "If 50 million people say a foolish thing, it is still a foolish thing."
- "Always try to be a little kinder than necessary."

- A. Thomas Jefferson
- B. Joseph Conrad
- C. Mark Twain
- D. Mohandas Ghandi
- E. Anatole France
- F. Marie Curie
- G. James Matthew Barrie
- H. Roy M. Goodman
- I. John G. Vance

Answers: 1-H, 2-D, 3-A, 4-F, 5-B, 6-I, 7-C, 8-E, 9-G.

### Book Review

**The World's Gone Crazy**  
It's a strange world out there — and Uncle John's Bathroom Reader loves it!  
Open *Uncle John's Bathroom Reader: The World's Gone Crazy* (Portable Press, \$18.95) anywhere and read about: weird news, unusual people, horrible movies, and the most outlandish animals, businesses, histories, body parts, Web sites, rituals, music, organizations, buildings, books, cars — and bathrooms, of course.

Other topics include the woman who married the Eiffel Tower; snails that shoot "love darts" and parrots that hunt sheep; the government's secret plan to poison the sky; demented dentists, cops gone crazy, and real Franksteins; ghosts, aliens, elves, and the giant people who live in Mt. Shasta; and hundreds of other oddities from all over the universe.

### Jerry Day Returns To McLaren Park

On Sunday, August 1, the Eighth Annual Jerry Day, a concert and celebration of Jerry Garcia's birthday in his own neighborhood will be held from 12 noon to 6 p.m. at the Jerry Garcia Amphitheater at 45 John F. Shelley Dr. in McLaren Park.

This event captures the true spirit of Jerry Garcia as we celebrate his legacy, the Jerry Garcia Amphitheater, and recognize his Excelsior roots.

### Cooking Corner

**Rosemary-Orange Grilled Chicken and Veggies**  
Serves: 4; Prep Time: 20 Minutes; Cook Time: 15 Minutes

1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cubed; 1 small eggplant, cut into 1-inch cubes; 2 medium red, green and/or yellow bell peppers, cut into 1½-inch squares; 1 medium yellow squash, cubed; 30 sprays I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!® Spray Original, divided; 1 tsp. chopped fresh rosemary; 1 tsp. grated orange peel; 2 Tbsp. orange juice.

- Spray chicken and vegetables with 15 sprays of I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!® Spray Original, then toss with rosemary and orange peel. Alternately thread chicken and vegetables on skewers. Grill or broil chicken and vegetables, turning once, 8 minutes or until chicken is thoroughly cooked and vegetables are just tender.
- Arrange chicken and vegetables on serving platter. Spray with remaining 15 sprays, then drizzle with orange juice. **NAPS**

## Visitation Valley Business Directory

Valley free listings in the 415 area code  
Call the Grapevine at (415) 467-9300

**AQUARIUM**  
DRAGON CITY AQUARIUM, 144 Leland Ave., 333-4598

**ART**  
J.M. ASIAN ART, 130 Leland Ave., 828-3328

**AUTOMOTIVE**  
BAYSHORE AUTO, 2260 Bayshore Blvd., 467-6130  
BAYSHORE SERVICE, 2596 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5239  
BROTHERS AUTO BODY, 2520 Bayshore Blvd.  
CHARLIE'S GARAGE, 2550 Bayshore Blvd., 239-7450  
TIGER'S AUTO BODY, 23 Industrial Way, Brisbane 94006, 467-6866  
TW AUTOMOTIVE, 2500 Bayshore Blvd., 585-8281

**BANK**  
BANK OF AMERICA, 6 Leland Ave., 622-4501

**BAKERS**  
LITTLE QUIAPO BAKE SHOP, 189 Leland Ave., 239-2253

**BARBERS**  
BARBERSHOP, 3570 San Bruno Ave., 724-4398  
EMMA'S HAIR SALON, 36 Leland Ave., 587-7429  
THE SHOP (JB), 160A Leland Ave., 239-6709

**BEAUTICIANS**  
AS YOU R, 170 Leland Ave., 756-1450  
BODY SOUL & SPIRIT, 222 Leland Ave., 333-7261  
CONNIE'S HAIR, 2436 Bayshore Blvd., 586-8288  
HONG KONG HAIR & NAIL BEAUTY SALON, 199 Leland Ave., 333-1005  
NAILS BY JENNY, 50 Leland Ave., 333-6800  
SHERRY BEAUTY SALON, 60 Leland Ave., 307-9081

**BLIND CLEANING**  
SPEEDY ULTRASONIC BLIND CLEANING (commercial and residential), 1116 Girard St., 467-7506

**BOARDING HOUSE**  
ABLE'S CASA, 850 Rutland St., 333-4664, fax 333-4693

**BOOKKEEPERS**  
AMY ARAGON, PROFESSIONAL BOOKKEEPER, 467-8927  
VERNA WALLACE E.A., 2320 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5333

**CARPETS**  
HANSEN INTERIORS, 41 Leland Ave., 333-6382

**CHURCHES**  
CHURCH OF THE VISTACION, 665 Sunnydale Ave., 434-5517, fax 494-5513  
IGLESIA EL ESPIRITU SANTO, 38 Leland Ave.  
KOREAN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 333 Tunnel Ave., 468-1213  
RIDGE VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 590 Leland Ave., 239-5457  
ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 240 Leland Ave., 586-6381  
VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH, 306 Raymond Ave., 467-6055  
VISTACION CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH, 8 Desmond St., 333-4503

**COFFEE**  
CANDLES TUCK COFFEE, 2155 Bayshore Blvd., 467-2442  
HAPPY DONUT, 2600 Bayshore Blvd., 489-5309  
JOE LELAND CAFE, 28 Leland Ave.

**CREDIT UNION**  
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, 29 Leland Ave., 434-0738

**DAY CARE**  
CAROUSEL DAY CARE, 261 Hahn St., 489-5353  
STARBRITE DAYCARE, 298 Arleta Ave., 666-1887

**DENTIST**  
VISTACION VALLEY DENTAL OFFICE (Albert Kuan, DDS), 37 Leland Ave., 239-5500

**DEVELOPERS**  
VISTACION VALLEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 587-7895

**ELECTRICAL**  
TATE ELECTRIC (Joel Tate), 467-4657

**FLOORS**  
TEDDY B'S HARDWOOD FLOORS, 309-6342

**FLORESTS**  
IL FIORE FLOWERS, 2466 San Bruno Ave., 468-0145  
FURNITURE REFINISHING/HANDYMAN  
AMAZING MAYS HANDYMAN SERVICE AND FURNITURE REFINISHING, 6220 3rd St., 368-3129

**GARDEN ORNAMENTS**  
SILVESTRI GARDEN ORNAMENTS, 2635 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5990

**GROCERS**  
CASA LOPEZ PRODUCE, 58 Leland Ave., 586-4745  
E-Z STOP MARKET, 2203 Geneva Ave., 585-9240  
LA LOMA PRODUCE #2, 66 Leland Ave., 239-7520  
LITTLE VILLAGE MARKET, 1450 Sunnydale Ave., 586-1815  
M & M SHOPSTOP, 2145 Geneva Ave., 585-0878  
PICCOLO PETE, 2156 Bayshore Blvd., 468-6800  
7-11, 2200 Bayshore Blvd., 468-8646  
SHUN LEE MARKET, 2400 Bayshore Blvd., 586-4851  
TEDDY'S MARKET, 298 Teddy Ave.

**HERBS**  
SAN ON HERBS, 33-A Leland Ave., 333-7469

**HYPNOTHERAPY**  
VALERIE HABEGGER HYPNOTHERAPY, 371 Teddy Ave., 468-5631

**INSURANCE**  
EDIE EPPS (A.H.E. INSURANCE), 467-0236, Fax 467-0276  
ROBERT LEHMAN, CLTC (Blue Cross), 333-0850

**LANDSCAPING**  
SAN FRANCISCO LANDSCAPES (Lic. # 932022), 256 Talbot St., 585-9137, slandscapes.com

**LAUNDRY/CLEANERS**  
BAY WASH, 44 Leland Ave.

CITY WASH, 83 Leland Ave., 333-9457  
COIN WASH & DRY LAUNDRY, 186 Leland Ave.  
FORTY-NINER CLEANERS, 51 Leland Ave., 239-6418  
LELAND AVENUE CLEANERS, 151 Leland Ave., 586-1412  
VALLEY LAUNDRY, 90 Leland Ave.  
VISTACION VALLEY LAUNDRY, 108 Leland Ave., 239-9030

**LEARNING**  
FIRST PLACE 2 START, 1252 Sunnydale Ave., 333-2668  
HERITAGE HOMES CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER, 245 Ray St., 586-8700  
JOHN KING CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER, 500 Raymond Ave., 333-1375  
VISTACION VALLEY COMMUNITY BEACON CENTER, 450 Raymond Ave., 452-4907  
VISTACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS, 103 Tucker Ave., 467-5656  
VISTACION VALLEY FAMILY SCHOOL, 325 Leland Ave., 585-9320

**LIBRARY**  
VISTACION VALLEY BRANCH, 45 Leland Ave., 239-5270

**MANUFACTURER**  
SEE'S CANDIES, INC., 345 Schwern St.

**MARTIAL ARTS**  
KUK SOOL WON, 189 Leland Ave.

**MEDICAL**  
AMERICAN RED CROSS, BAY AREA CHAPTER, 1704 Sunnydale Ave., 584-3620  
HAWKINS VILLAGE MEDICAL CLINIC (Dept. of Public Health), 1099 Sunnydale Ave., Appointments 715-0310  
DR. SAM HO, MD, 2858 San Bruno Ave., 337-6135  
NEW CARNIVAL ACUPRESSURE HEALTH CENTER, 2458 Bayshore Blvd., 337-8100  
NORTH EAST MEDICAL SERVICES, LELAND AVENUE, 82 Leland Ave., 391-9686 (ask for Leland Avenue clinic)  
PORTOLA FOOT & ANKLE CLINIC (Dr. Divyang Patel), 2858 San Bruno Ave., 467-7500

**ORGANIZATIONS**  
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 2442 Bayshore Blvd., 587-2689  
WILLIE L. BROWN, JR. TEEN CENTER, 1652 Sunnydale Ave., 584-6099  
CHINESE FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IN VISTACION VALLEY, 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 597-5779  
GENEVA TERRACE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, 60 Burr Ave., 584-2700  
GIRLS AFTER SCHOOL ACADEMY, 2050 Sunnydale Ave., 333 Schwern St., 584-4044  
JOHN KING SENIOR COMMUNITY, 500 Raymond Ave., 239-6233  
LELAND HOUSE, 141 Leland Ave., 406-2000  
ROCK (Real Options for City Kids), 590 Leland Ave., 333-4001  
SUNNYDALE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB, 1654 Sunnydale Ave., 584-5028  
SUNNYDALE DEVELOPMENT COO OFFICE, 1652 Sunnydale Ave., 841-1683  
VISTACION VALLEY SENIOR CENTER, 66 Raymond Ave., 467-4499

**PHARMACY**  
VISTACION VALLEY PHARMACY, 100 Leland Ave., 239-5811

**PHOTOGRAPHER**  
WALTER CORBIN PHOTOGRAPHY (freelance), 435 Sawyer St., 587-9471, fax 337-8620

**PLUMBING**  
MARK VOELKER PLUMBING, 99 Arleta Ave., 467-7401

**POST OFFICE**  
VISTACION USPO, 68 Leland Ave., (800) 275-8777

**REAL ESTATE**  
JUSTYNA TO, (Realtor Coldwell Banker), 830-1235  
LAFLUE-WALTON & ASSOCIATES, 2428 Bayshore Blvd., 587-8683  
ROYAL PACIFIC MORTGAGE, 46 Leland Ave., 333-4900  
CATHY KUINE SAUNDERS (Zephyr Real Estate), 215 West Portal Ave., 731-5011 ex. 163

**RESTAURANTS**  
BAYSIDE CAFE, 2011 Bayshore Blvd., 467-2023  
EL BUEN SABOR #2, 98 Leland Ave., 587-7721  
HAPPY FAMILY FAST FOOD, 107 Leland Ave., 333-8999  
G & L BAKERY & RESTAURANT, 198 Leland Ave., 239-6283  
LUAN FAT BAKERY, 110 Leland Ave., 585-1167  
TWO JACKS, 167 Leland Ave., 337-0433

**SCULPTOR**  
CARTORIGINALS (Mikal Cantor), 2 Hahn St., 239-4138

**SELF-DEVELOPMENT**  
DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENTS (Maynor Ann Williams, CEO, Career and Self-Enhancements Specialist), 467-7608

**SERVICE PROVIDERS**  
CLAIR PROJECT, 1099 Sunnydale Ave., Ste. 323, 333-3017, fax 587-7481  
THE VILLAGE, 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 239-5045  
VISTACION VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH OUTREACH CENTER, 57 Leland Ave.  
VISTACION VALLEY BILINGUAL EDUCATION SUPPORTIVE SERVICES & TRAINING, 120 Leland Ave.  
VISTACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER (VVOCC), 50 Raymond Ave., 467-6400  
VVOCC FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER, 161 Leland Ave., 586-6998, Fax 586-8027  
VISTACION VALLEY BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND OUTREACH TO MERCHANTS, 225 5969

**TELEPHONE**  
D & A WIRELESS, 78 Leland Ave., 452-4139

**VARIETY**  
GOLDEN 99 CENTS ZONE, 5 Leland Ave., 333-3923

## Saturdays Are Special at Randall Museum

Drop in Saturdays between 1 and 4 p.m. to create all kinds of art and science projects. Cost is \$6 a child or \$10 for an adult and child together. Kids under 8 must be with a paying, participating adult. Members of the Randall Museum Friends and Arts Card holders receive a 2-for-1 discount. Sign up at the museum's front desk to participate; the last sign-ups are taken at 3:30 p.m.

\*Aug. 7 - Build a cubist sculpture out of simple geometric components you make yourself.

\*Aug. 14 - Collage meets sculpture as we create three-dimensional worlds designed to be viewed through collaged transparent window box assemblages.

\*Aug. 21 - Use every day materials to build your very own *Viking Ship*.

\*Aug. 28 - Use sculpting materials to design a human or animal figure. You choose the pose!

**Events in August at Valley Branch Library**  
Following are events in August at the Visitation Valley Branch Library, 45 Leland Ave.

\*Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, Tuesday: Family Storytime, songs, stories and rhymes for children of all ages from 11:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

\*Aug. 12, Thursday: Make an adorable pom-pom creature out of yarn and buttons from 3:30 to 5 p.m. All materials provided. Open to teens and tweens.

\*Aug. 26, Thursday: Game On! Get your game on at the library this summer! Battle your friends on the Wii from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Open to teens and tweens.



## EarthTalk

### Do Volcanos Have Anything to Do with Global Warming?

Dear EarthTalk: Is there any link between increased volcanic activity — such as the recent eruptions in Iceland, Alaska and elsewhere — and global warming? — Ellen McAndrew, via e-mail

It's impossible to pin isolated natural phenomena—like an individual volcanic eruption—on global warming, but some researchers insist that there is a correlation between the two in some instances.

"Global warming melts ice and this can influence magmatic systems," reports Freysteinn Sigmundsson of the Nordic Volcanological Centre at the University of Iceland. Her research with Carolina Pagli of the University of Leeds in England suggests that rocks cannot expand to turn into magma—the primary "feedstock" for volcanic eruptions—when they are under the pressure of a big ice cap pushing down on them. As the theory goes, melting ice caps relieve that pressure and allow the rocks to become magma. This in turn increases the chances of larger and/or more frequent eruptions in affected regions, from Iceland to Alaska to Patagonia to Antarctica.

As for Iceland specifically, the eruption of Mt. Eyjafjallajökull that shut down some air travel for weeks this past spring cannot be blamed on changing climate: That volcano lies under a relatively small icecap which would not exert enough pressure to affect the creation of magma. But Sigmundsson and Pagli found that the melting of about a tenth of Iceland's biggest icecap, Vatnajökull, over the last century caused the land to rise an inch or so per year and led to the growth of an underground mass of magma measuring a third of a cubic mile. Similar processes, they say,

led to a surge in volcanic eruptions in Iceland at the end of the last ice age, and similarly increased volcanic activity is expected to occur there in the future.

On the flipside, volcanic eruptions can exacerbate the ongoing effects of climate change: Already retreating glaciers can lose all their ice when something below them blows. Of course, many volcanoes around the world are not subject to pressure from ice caps, and scientists stress that there is little if any evidence linking global warming to eruptions in such situations.

Some have theorized that large volcanic eruptions contribute to global warming by spewing large amounts of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the stratosphere. But the amount of greenhouse gases emitted by even a large and ongoing volcanic eruption is but a drop in the bucket in

### Law Protects Renters During Foreclosure

A new federal law helps protect the rights of tenants in properties facing foreclosure, say experts at the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC).

The Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act of 2009 establishes national standards to provide renters sufficient notice when foreclosure happens.

The new national standard provides uniform protection to renters who are vulnerable to sudden eviction. The new law states:

\*In all cases, renters will get at least a 90-day notice prior to eviction.

\*Renters can stay until their lease runs out except when the new owner will occupy the home as a primary residence, when renters have no lease or, when renters have only a month-to-month lease. Even for these three exceptions, the 90-day notice still applies.

The new law applies only to a "bona fide" lease or tenancy. Bona fide means:

\*The tenant is not the landlord or a child, spouse or parent of the

former owner.

\*The lease or tenancy is the product of an "arm's length transaction" with no conflict of interest.

\*The rent is not substantially less than the fair market price.

OCC experts advise renters to always be aware of their rights, and protect these rights by making sure they stay in good standing with regard to their rental property.

Some tips on how to prove you are in good standing include:

\*Sign a written lease.

\*Pay your rent on time and in full.

\*Use checks rather than cash to provide a record of payment.

\*Pay your rent at the market rate. Paying a lower rent to a friend or family member will cut your costs, but may weaken your legal standing during a foreclosure or legal dispute.

\*With all legal matters, the OCC encourages you to consult a lawyer.

To learn more about foreclosures

and banks in general, go to [www.HelpWithMyBank.gov](http://www.HelpWithMyBank.gov). **NAPS**

comparison to our annual output of industrial and automotive carbon emissions.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, greenhouse gas emissions from volcanoes make up less than one percent of those generated by human endeavors. Also, ash clouds and sulfur dioxide released from volcanoes shield some sunlight from reaching the Earth and as such can have a cooling effect on the planet. The 1991 eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in the Philippines—a much larger eruption than what occurred recently in Iceland—caused an average cooling of half a degree centigrade worldwide during the following year. Regardless, single volcanic eruptions, even if they last for weeks or months, are unlikely to send enough gas or ash up into the skies to have any long term effect on the planet's climate.

### Federal Student Loan Program Changes

by Jason Alderman

My wife recently enrolled in graduate school, so like millions of other Americans we've paid close attention to news about student loan programs. One recent example: A key component of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act will result in several significant modifications to the how federal student loans are offered and processed.

According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, the changes will save approximately \$61 billion over the next 10 years—money that will partially be used to expand the Pell Grant program for low-income students, beef up community college funding and eventually lower monthly loan repayment amounts for lower-income earners participating in the Income-Based Repayment Plan.

Here's an overview of key changes:

As of July 1, all new federally backed student loans are now issued directly through the Department of Education's Direct Loan program, thereby eliminating the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP), which had allowed banks and other private lenders to offer federally guaranteed loans. The government is essentially eliminating banks as the middleman for these loans.

Affected loans include subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford Loans for undergraduate and graduate students, PLUS Loans for parents and PLUS Loans for graduate and professional degree students. Under Direct Loan, the latter two actually have lower interest rates than they did under FFELP (7.9 percent vs. 8.5 percent); and, the approval rate for parent loans tends to be higher.

Private lenders will continue servicing student loans already on their books and may continue offering student and parental loans that are not federally guaranteed, just as they al-

ways have. Such uninsured loans typically have higher interest rates but may allow larger loan amounts.

Another feature: For federal loans granted beginning in 2014, lower-income graduates with outstanding Stafford or Grad PLUS loans who opt for an Income-Based Repayment (IBR) plan will see their monthly repayment amount capped at 10 percent of income, compared to the current 15 percent, provided their loan debt qualifies as high relative to income and family size. Go to [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov) and search "IBR" to read about eligibility requirements.

These changes do not impact the process of applying for federal grants, loans or work-study programs or change the amount of federal aid that students are eligible to receive. The first step for students interested in receiving federal aid is still to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is available online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov), from the school's guidance counselor or financial aid office, or by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID.

Most of the savings reaped by eliminating the FFELP will be applied toward the Federal Pell Grant program. (Pell Grants are scholarships given to students from lower-income families that needn't be repaid.)

Beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011), the maximum Pell Grant amount increases by \$200 to \$5,550, where it will remain until 2013-2014. In addition, from the 2013-2014 through 2017-2018 academic years, the amount will be indexed for inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers), capping out at \$5,975.

For more details on the budgetary impacts of this Act, visit the Congressional Committee on Education and Labor's website, [www.edlabor.house.gov](http://www.edlabor.house.gov) and search "SAFRA" (Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act).

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For more information or to schedule a tour,  
please contact Ms. Jasmine at

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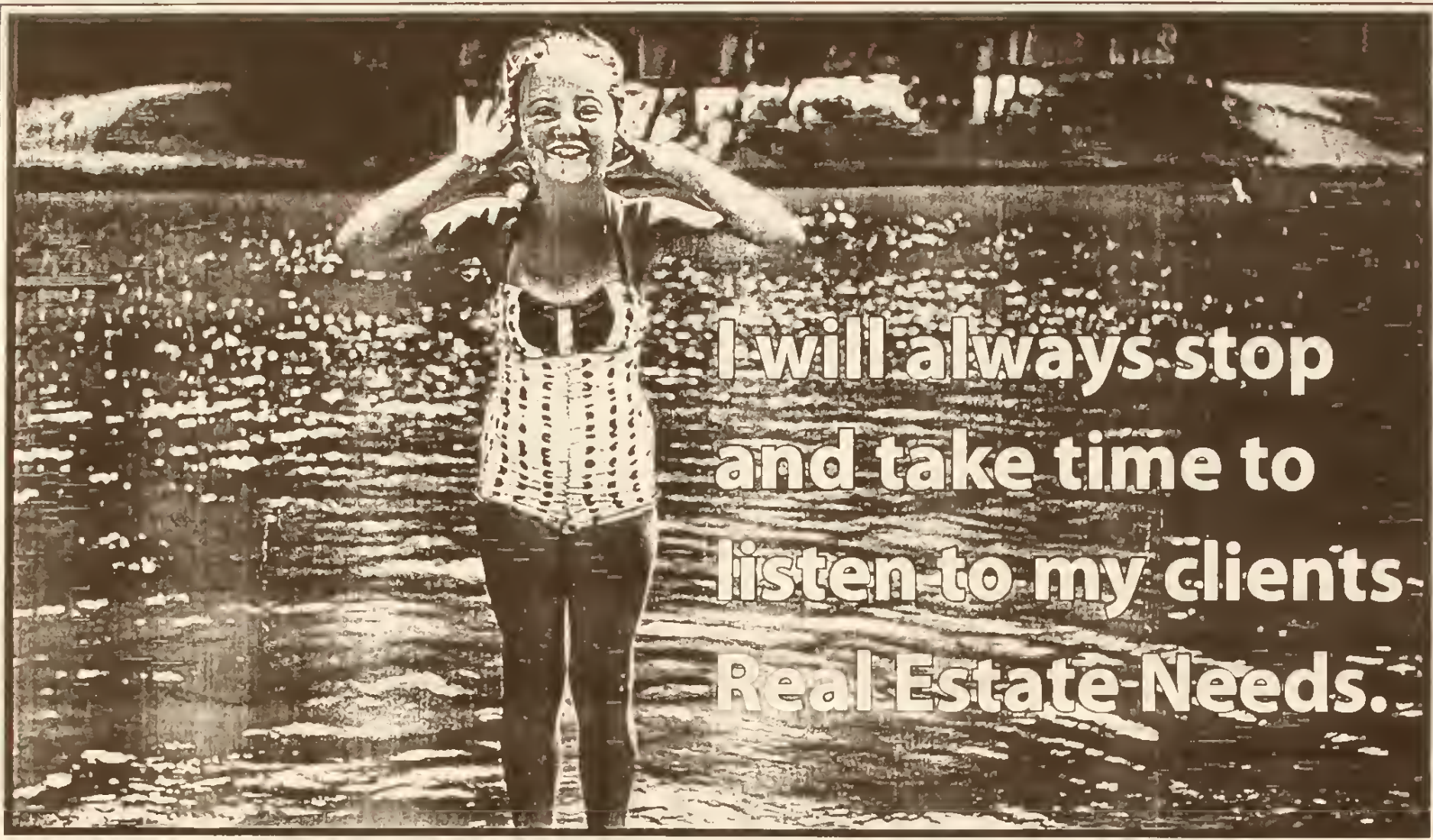




Cathy Kline-Saunders

Swimming with her twin sisters at Russian River

Circa 1958



I will always stop  
and take time to  
listen to my clients'  
Real Estate Needs.

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